

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>CRIMINAL NO.</b> _____
<b>v.</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>DATE FILED:</b> _____
<b>GEORGE C. WAGNER,</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>VIOLATIONS:</b>
<b>a/k/a "George Walker"</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1341 (mail fraud - 30 counts)</b>
	<b>:</b>	

**INDICTMENT**

**COUNTS ONE THROUGH THIRTY**

**THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT:**

At all times material to this indictment:

1. The Philadelphia Electric Company ("PECO") was an electric utility company, doing business in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, which for a fee provided electricity to residential, commercial and industrial customers.
2. PECO installed, maintained, monitored and utilized locked or sealed meters on its customers' property to record the amount of electricity used by customers and to prepare bills for customers based upon the readings taken from these electric meters.
3. PECO billed its customers for electricity usage by way of the United States mails.

4. Defendant GEORGE WAGNER was not a PECO employee and was not authorized by PECO to unlock, unseal or in any way alter PECO electric meters.

#### **THE SCHEME**

5. From in or about February 1997 and continuing until at least in or about February 2003, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**GEORGE C. WAGNER,  
a/k/a “George Walker,”**

and other persons, known and unknown to the grand jury, devised and intended to devise a scheme to defraud PECO and to obtain money and property from PECO by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises.

#### **MANNER AND MEANS**

It was part of the scheme that:

6. For payments of money received from certain PECO customers, known and unknown to the grand jury, defendant GEORGE WAGNER tampered with, and caused to be tampered with, the electric meters of these customers so that the meters would not record accurately the true amount of electricity which the customers used, and so that PECO’s bills to those customers would charge less than the charge for the true amount of electricity used by these customers.

7. From in or about February 1997 to in or about February 2003, defendant GEORGE WAGNER requested and induced, and attempted to induce, PECO customers to pay him money for the installation of what he falsely represented to be “energy saving devices.”

8. On or about November 26, 2002, defendant GEORGE WAGNER did possess, without authorization of PECO, a PECO barrel lock key which is used to open electric meters, approximately three cut PECO lead meter seals, approximately 22 new/uncut PECO seals, tools and wire for tampering with PECO meters, and miscellaneous papers containing the names, addresses and telephone numbers of PECO customers whose electric meters had been the subject of tampering.

9. Defendant GEORGE WAGNER did not install any “energy saving device” for PECO customers, but instead, defendant WAGNER tampered with PECO customers’ electric meters by installing devices that prevented the meters from recording the true amount of electricity used by these customers. This resulted in false meter readings and billings for each monthly cycle.

10. Defendant GEORGE WAGNER received from these PECO customers payments totaling approximately \$6,000.00.

11. As a result of the tampering with these meters, PECO suffered a loss of revenues of approximately \$116,339.81.

12. On or about each of the dates set forth below, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**GEORGE C. WAGNER,  
a/k/a “George Walker,”**

and other persons known and unknown to the grand jury, for the purpose of executing the scheme described above, and attempting to do so, knowingly caused PECO to place in

an authorized depository for mail matter any matter or thing to be sent by the United States Postal Service, the following electric bills, which falsely and fraudulently charged amounts less than that which was actually due and owing to PECO, each mailing being a separate count of this indictment:

<u>Count</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Bill Amount</u>	<u>Customer/Address</u>
1	7/7/2000	XX-XX-XX-XX9656	\$ 64.66	G. G. Philadelphia, PA 19149
2	6/8/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX9656	\$ 64.37	G. G. Philadelphia, PA 19149
3	5/8/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX9656	\$ 99.42	G. G. Philadelphia, PA 19149
4	7/7/2000	XX-XX-XX-XX8559	\$ 535.57	G. G. Philadelphia, PA 19149
5	2/8/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX8559	\$ 614.70	G. G. Philadelphia, PA 19149
6	1/8/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX8559	\$ 341.87	G. G. Philadelphia, PA 19149
7	2/15/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX2539	\$ 57.79	M. G. Richboro, PA 18954
8	1/15/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX2539	\$ 68.99	M. G. Richboro, PA 18954
9	3/6/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX1042	\$ 53.35	G. M. Croyden, PA 19021
10	2/4/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX1042	\$ 51.66	G. M. Croyden, PA 19021
11	2/3/2003	XX-XX-XX-XX1042	\$ 54.19	G. M. Croyden, PA 19021

<u>Count</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Bill Amount</u>	<u>Customer/Address</u>
12	7/3/2000	XX-XX-XX-XX1055	\$ 245.92	L. C. E. Bristol, PA 19007
13	1/4/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX1055	\$ 256.72	L. C. E. Bristol, PA 19007
14	4/3/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX1055	\$ 341.52	L. C. E. Bristol, PA 19007
15	7/12/2000	XX-XX-XX-XX9515	\$ 733.33	J. T. K. Clifton Heights, PA 19018
16	5/11/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX9515	\$ 458.25	J. T. K. Clifton Heights, PA 19018
17	1/10/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX9515	\$ 456.44	J. T. K. Clifton Heights, PA 19018
18	7/11/2000	XX-XX-XX-XX4925	\$ 667.33	G. P. (Store) Philadelphia, PA 19136
19	2/12/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX4925	\$ 449.54	G. P. (Store) Philadelphia, PA 19136
20	12/10/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX4925	\$ 749.35	G. P. (Store) Philadelphia, PA 19136
21	2/10/2003	XX-XX-XX-XX4925	\$ 494.03	G. P. (Store) Philadelphia, PA 19136
22	12/10/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX7126	\$ 102.11	G. P. Philadelphia, PA 19136
23	9/10/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX7126	\$ 36.10	G.P. Philadelphia, PA 19136
24	10/10/2000	XX-XX-XX-XX6029	\$ 61.72	G. P. Philadelphia, PA 19136
25	2/8/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX6029	\$ 92.53	G. P. Philadelphia, PA 19136

<u>Count</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Bill Amount</u>	<u>Customer/Address</u>
26	2/10/2003	XX-XX-XX-XX6029	\$ 131.54	G. P. Philadelphia, PA 19136
27	7/24/2000	XX-XX-XX-XX8025	\$ 542.31	M. W. Philadelphia, PA 19125
28	3/24/2001	XX-XX-XX-XX8025	\$ 418.46	M. W. Philadelphia, PA 19125
29	6/21/2002	XX-XX-XX-XX8025	\$ 654.12	M. W. Philadelphia, PA 19125
30	1/23/2003	XX-XX-XX-XX8025	\$ 592.34	M. W. Philadelphia, PA 19125

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341.

**A TRUE BILL:**

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**GRAND JURY FOREPERSON**

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**PATRICK L. MEEHAN**  
**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**